

CLAIMS

WE CLAIM:

1. A method for improving reading comprehension by a subject having access to a physical representation of at least one scenario described in a text having a plurality of critical sentences and having access to a plurality of physical objects representing actors or objects in the at least one scenario, the method comprising the steps of:
 - reading the text for the at least one scenario; and
 - manipulating the relevant physical object or objects in the physical representation of the at least one scenario to act out the plurality of critical sentences in the text,
such that a comprehension benefit is realized.
2. A method as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the manipulating step is practiced for each critical sentence in the text.
3. A method as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the manipulating step is practiced in separate trials spaced apart in time for a plurality of scenarios described in a plurality of texts, such that a context-independent comprehension benefit is realized.
4. A method as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the physical objects used in the method have realistic attributes relative to one another and to the physical representation of the scenario or scenarios.
5. A method as claimed in Claim 1 wherein the subject is supervised by an instructor.

6. A method for improving reading comprehension by a subject, the method comprising the steps of:

reading at least one first text having a plurality of critical sentences for which the subject has access to a physical representation of a scenario described in the text and has access to a plurality of physical objects representing actors or objects in the scenario;

manipulating the relevant physical object or objects in the physical representation of the scenario in the at least one first text to act out the plurality of critical sentences,

reading at least one second text having a plurality of critical sentences for which the subject lacks access to a physical representation of a scenario described in the text and lacks access to a plurality of physical objects representing actors or objects in the scenario; and

imagining manipulating a relevant object or objects in an imagined representation of the scenario in the plurality of critical sentences of the at least one second text,

such that a transferred comprehension benefit is realized.

7. A kit comprising:

at least one text having a plurality of critical sentences, each text describing a scenario;
a physical representation of the scenario described in each text; and
a plurality of objects relevant to the scenario described in each text.

8. A kit as claimed in Claim 7 wherein the text is provided in an electronic medium.

9. A kit as claimed in Claim 7, the kit further comprising:
an instructor's guide.

10. A kit as claimed in Claim 9 wherein the instructor's guide is provided in an electronic medium.